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BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

Application Number: 09/873,933
Filing Date: June 04, 2001
Appellant(s): LUND ET AL.

Daniel T. Lund
For Appellant

EXAMINER'S ANSWER

This is in response to the appeal brief filed 2/12/2009 appealing from the Office action mailed 8/12/2008.

(1) Real Party in Interest

A statement identifying by name the real party in interest is contained in the brief.

(2) Related Appeals and Interferences

The following are the related appeals, interferences, and judicial proceedings known to the examiner which may be related to, directly affect or be directly affected by or have a bearing on the Board's decision in the pending appeal:

Currently-pending appeal in Application number 11/065,323 which is a divisional application of the present application.

(3) Status of Claims

The statement of the status of claims contained in the brief is correct.

(4) Status of Amendments After Final

The appellant's statement of the status of amendments after final rejection contained in the brief is correct.

(5) Summary of Claimed Subject Matter

The summary of claimed subject matter contained in the brief is correct.

(6) Grounds of Rejection to be Reviewed on Appeal

The appellant's statement of the grounds of rejection to be reviewed on appeal is correct.

(7) Claims Appendix

The copy of the appealed claims contained in the Appendix to the brief is correct.

(8) Evidence Relied Upon

6,002,746	Mulcahy et al	12-1999

5,420,572	Dolin, Jr. et al	05-1995
6,163,594	Kennedy et al	12-2000

(9) Grounds of Rejection

The following ground(s) of rejection are applicable to the appealed claims:

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 2/20/2009, 10/20/2008, and 8/13/2008 have been considered by the examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The 35 U.S.C § 112, first paragraph rejection for claims 63, 67, 68 and 69 has been vacated.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to

consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

3. Claims 1- 2, 37, 39-41, 43-44, and 47-69 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mulcahy et al (6,002,746 hereinafter Mulcahy) in view Dolin, Jr. et al (5,420,572 hereinafter Dolin). The Examiner notes that Applicants are not appealing the rejection for claims 56-61 (Brief page 3). Therefore, the rejection for claims 56-61 have been removed from the rejection.

Regarding claims 1, 49, 56 and 63. Mulcahy teaches a subscriber unit and method for correlating a subscriber unit to a physical port in a point-to-point or to a point-to-multipoint network (title, abstract) comprising:

prompting an installer to manually input a location code associated with the subscriber unit (col. 7 lines 64-67);

receiving the location code in the subscriber unit (col. 7 lines 64-67);

transmitting the location code via the network to a central repository (col. 7 lines 29-32); and

storing the location code in the central repository to associate the location code with the physical port (col. 8 lines 7-9).

According to Applicants, Mulcahy fails to teach transmitting the location code and a subscriber unit identifier to a central repository (see Amendment and remarks, paper dated 11/01/05 and comments appearing at the bottom of page 10, paper dated 11/7/06).

Dolin teaches a configuration device for use in a networked communication system (title, abstract) that allows any individual to configure a network by correctly and accurately assigning and recording addresses for each node (col. 3 line 63 - col. 4 line 8, co. 5 line 55 - col. 6 line 4). Dolin discloses that the preferred embodiment of the present invention is designed to interface with any number of physical media, including optical (col. 9 lines 12-52). Dolin teaches using Domain addresses to define a network (col. 10 lines 14-19, col. 10 line 62 - col. 11 line 6). Dolin teaches using location codes in conjunction with node addresses and node ids (col. 10 line 62 - col. 12 line 43) to provide for accurate and relatively simple configuration of a network.

It would have been obvious for any one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to utilize the teachings of Dolin into the teachings of Mulcahy in order to allow an installer of a network to store location information in conjunction with node addresses when network set-up is being conducted.

Regarding claim 2. Mulcahy teaches checking the location code for errors before storing (col. 8 lines 1 1-13); upon finding an error, transmitting an instruction to the subscriber unit to indicate error to the installer (col. 8 lines 14-22), and upon finding no errors, storing the location code (col. 7 lines 29-32). Applicants amend dependent claim 2 to further include "correlating the subscriber unit with the geographic location using the location code and the subscriber unit identifier. The Examiner notes that Applicants original field specification is generally directed towards transmitting location code to central repository towards associating the location code with a physical port in a point-to-multipoint network. In other words, Applicants invention is directed towards storing

location code in a central repository towards associating the location code with the physical port. Applicants originally specification (see U.S. Pub. No.: 2002/0184644, paragraph 0020) reveals the location code is just an integer, which reflects a customer number already used by the service provider (e.g. the methods that directly support the daily operation of a LEC) identifying the subscriber. Therefore, the CLI used in Mulcahy reflects a customer number already used by the service provider to identify the subscriber.

Regarding claim 37. Dolin teaches the location code permits identification of network service parameters associated with the subscriber unit (col. 11 lines 34-53).

Regarding claims 39, 50 and 57. Mulcahy teaches receiving the location code in the subscriber unit (col. 7 lines 64-67).

Regarding claims 40, 51 and 58. Mulcahy teaches prompting an installer to manually input a location code associated with the subscriber unit (col. 7 lines 64-67).

Regarding claims 41, 52 and 59. Mulcahy teaches test set used by craftsperson (see 18 figure 4).

Regarding claims 43, 53-54 and 60-61. Dolin teaches subscriber unit is equipped to receive information including voice, data and video content (see col. 9 lines12-52 wherein any number of physical media may be interfaced which include twisted pair and optical obviously providing voice and data to subscribers).

Regarding claims 44 and 55. Mulcahy teaches checking the location code for errors before storing (col. 8 lines 11-13); and upon detection of error in the location

code, transmitting an instruction to the subscriber unit to indicate error to the installer (col. 8 lines 14-22).

Regarding claim 47. Dolin teaches wherein the subscriber unit identifier includes a serial number (see col. 9 lines 18-28 wherein each node are assigned a unique number at time of manufacturing which reads on serial number).

Regarding claim 48. Dolin teaches node addresses and node ids stored in conjunction with location codes (col. 11 line 1 - col. 12 line 43)

Regarding claim 62. Mulcahy teaches subscriber unit is located at subscriber location (see col. 8 lines 7-9 wherein CLI is typically used to physically identify subscriber units).

Regarding claim 64. Dolin teaches activating subscriber services provisioned for the subscriber after the correlation of the subscriber unit with the geographic location (see col. 10 line 62 - col. 12 line 43 wherein node addresses and ids are first associated with location code information so that future configuration and re- configuration may be easily conducted).

Regarding claim 65. Mulcahy teaches correlating the subscriber unit with the geographic location using the location code (col. 7 lines 64-67) and the subscriber unit identifier (col. 8 lines 7-9). The Examiner notes that Applicants original field specification is generally directed towards transmitting location code to central repository towards associating the location code with a physical port in a point-to- multipoint network. In other words, Applicants invention is directed towards storing location code in a central repository towards associating the location code with the physical port. Applicants

originally specification (see U.S. Pub. No.: 2002/0184644, paragraph 0020) reveals the location code is just an integer, which reflects a customer number already used by the service provider (e.g. the methods that directly support the daily operation of a LEC) identifying the subscriber. Therefore, the CLI used in Mulcahy reflects a customer number already used by the service provider to identify the subscriber.

Regarding claim 66. Dolin teaches activating subscriber services provisioned for the subscriber after correlation of the subscriber unit with the geographic location (see col. 9 lines 12-27 wherein the present invention is designed to interface with any number of physical media, including optical and provides a unique means for installation and maintenance of the network --- col. 9 lines 42-52).

Regarding claim 67. Dolin teaches activating subscriber services provisioned for the subscriber after correlation of the subscriber unit with the geographic location (see col. 9 lines 12-27 wherein the present invention is designed to interface with any number of physical media, including optical and provides a unique means for installation and maintenance of the network --- col. 9 lines 42-52). The Examiner notes that Applicants original field specification is generally directed towards transmitting location code to central repository towards associating the location code with a physical port in a point-to-multipoint network. In other words, Applicants invention is directed towards storing location code in a central repository towards associating the location code with the physical port. Applicants originally specification (see U.S. Pub. No.: 2002/0184644, paragraph 0020) reveals the location code is just an integer, which reflects a customer number already used by the service provider (e.g. the methods that directly support the

daily operation of a LEC) identifying the subscriber. Therefore, the CLI used in Mulcahy reflects a customer number already used by the service provider to identify the subscriber.

Regarding claim 68. Mulcahy teaches a point-to-point or a point-to-multipoint network (title, abstract) comprising:

wherein subscriber units send a location code (col. 7 lines 64-67) and subscriber unit identifier (see CLI --- col. 8 lines 7-10, col. 8 lines 49-50) associated with the subscriber unit to a remote device (col. 8 lines 7-9, col. 7 lines 29-32) ;

wherein the location code permits identification of a geographic location of the subscriber (see col. 7 lines 64-67 wherein location code "terminal number" permits the identification where the terminal is located); wherein the central repository (i.e. remote device) receives the subscriber unit identifiers (see CLI --- col. 8 lines 7-10, col. 8 lines 49-50) and the location codes (col. 7 lines 64-67) and correlates subscriber units (col. 8 lines 7-9, col. 7 lines 29-32) with the geographic location using the subscriber unit identifier (see CLI --- col. 8 lines 7-10, col. 8 lines 49-50) and the location code (col. 7 lines 64-67).

Mulcahy does not appear to teach: a remote device; a first line connected to the remote device; a passive splitter connected to the first line opposite the remote device; a plurality of additional lines connected to the passive splitter opposite to the first line; and a plurality of subscriber units, each of the subscriber units connected to one of the additional lines opposite to the passive splitter.

Dolin teaches a configuration device for use in a networked communication system (title, abstract) that allows any individual to configure a network by correctly and accurately assigning and recording addresses for each node (col. 3 line 63 - col. 4 line 8, co. 5 line 55 - col. 6 line 4). Dolin discloses that the preferred embodiment of the present invention is designed to interface with any number of physical media, including optical (col. 9 lines 12-52). Dolin teaches using Domain addresses to define a network (col. 10 lines 14-19, col. 10 line 62 - col. 11 line 6). Dolin teaches using location codes in conjunction with node addresses and node ids (col. 10 line 62 - col. 12 line 43) to provide for accurate and relatively simple configuration of a network. The Examiner notes that Dolin (col. 9 lines 12-17) reveals the network of the present invention may interface with various media such as power lines, twisted pair, radio frequency, infrared, ultrasonic, optical, coaxial, or other media to form a network which would obviously require a remote unit, passive splitter when interfacing with optical media.

It would have been obvious for any one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to utilize the teachings of Dolin into the teachings of Mulcahy in order to provide a more flexible system that could be applied to a variety of networks, including optical as disclosed by Dolin.

Regarding claim 69. Dolin teaches activating subscriber services provisioned for the subscriber after correlation of the subscriber unit with the geographic location (see col. 9 lines 12-27 wherein the present invention is designed to interface with any number of physical media, including optical and provides a unique means for installation and maintenance of the network --- col. 9 lines 42-52). The Examiner notes that

Applicants original field specification is generally directed towards transmitting location code to central repository towards associating the location code with a physical port in a point-to-multipoint network. In other words, Applicants invention is directed towards storing location code in a central repository towards associating the location code with the physical port. Applicants originally specification (see U.S. Pub. No.: 2002/0184644, paragraph 0020) reveals the location code is just an integer, which reflects a customer number already used by the service provider (e.g. the methods that directly support the daily operation of a LEC) identifying the subscriber. Therefore, the CLI used in Mulcahy reflects a customer number already used by the service provider to identify the subscriber.

4. Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mulcahy et al (6,002,746 hereinafter Mulcahy) in view Dolin, Jr. et al (5,420,572 hereinafter Dolin) further in view of Kennedy et al (6,163,594 hereinafter Kennedy).

Regarding claim 3. Mulcahy in view of Dolin fail to show prompting the installer to reinput the location code. However, Mulcahy discloses that if an error is detected, the operator can instruct a field engineer (i.e. installer) to perform appropriate operations to correct the error (col. 8 lines 1 9-22).

Kennedy allows the craftsperson to re-input the location code (col. 2 lines 51-60, col. 3 lines 33-66, col. 7 lines 39-41 , col. 10 lines 1-3, lines 29-31 , see "reentering the correct directory number" in column 11).

It would have been obvious for any one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to utilize the teachings of Kennedy into the teachings of Mulcahy and Dolin to

allow the technician the opportunity to perform appropriate operations to correct the error.

(10) Response to Argument

(I) Appellants argue that Mulcahy teaches a point-to-point system since the geographic location is knowable in advance (brief pages 12-16, especially page 16 lines 15-19).

The Examiner is not convinced that Mulcahy invention to be strictly limited to a point-to-point system. Mulcahy invention allows a field engineer to identify a line at a junction point or terminal point in an access network (Mulcahy col. 5 lines 28-31). The Examiner notes that Appellants originally filed specification reveals that the geographic location is nothing more than a location site key used to identify the customer and the location site key is a numeric code assigned by the utility company for each demarcation point in the network (see Appellants originally field specification, page 5 line 21-24). In other words, the geographic location is known in advance since it is assigned by the utility company. Appellants originally filed specification (see page 6 line 22 – page 7 line 4) reveals that the geographic location code/key may be pre-programmed in the installer's testing device, wherein the location key is an integer, which reflects a customer number already used by the service provider operations support system (e.g. the methods that directly support the daily operation of a LEC) identifying the subscriber. In other words, the geographic location is already known in advance.

(II) Appellants argue that Mulcahy does not teach transmitting the location code (see bottom page 17 of brief).

The Examiner notes that Mulcahy teaches location (i.e. terminal number) and does suggest transmitting subscriber id back to the database (see CLI in column 8 lines 7-9 and column 8 lines 49-50).

(III) Appellants argue the combination of Mulcahy with Dolin (see bottom page 18 continuing to page 20).

The Examiner notes that Mulcahy does not rule out the possibility of sending geographic location information to a database (see CLI in column 8 lines 7-9 and column 8 lines 49-50). Dolin teaches a configuration device for use in a networked communication system (title, abstract) that allows any individual to configure a network by correctly and accurately assigning and recording addresses for each node (col. 3 line 63 - col. 4 line 8, co. 5 line 55 - col. 6 line 4). Dolin discloses that the preferred embodiment of the present invention is designed to interface with any number of physical media, including optical (col. 9 lines 12-52). Dolin teaches using Domain addresses to define a network (col. 10 lines 14-19, col. 10 line 62 - col. 11 line 6). Dolin teaches using location codes in conjunction with node addresses and node ids (col. 10 line 62 - col. 12 line 43) to provide for accurate and relatively simple configuration of a network.

Dolin discloses the importance of using location information (see column 3 line 63 - column 4 line 5). That is, during maintenance of a highly distributed system, it is desirable to provide accessibility to identification information identifying a particular

node in the network, especially when a node is malfunctioning (col. 13 lines 5-9). Dolin at column 11 lines 30-52 reveals that location information is important for configuring nodes with "application specific location code information".

It would have been obvious for any one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to utilize the teachings of Dolin into the teachings of Mulcahy in order to allow an installer of a network to store location information in conjunction with node addresses when network set-up is being conducted. Then, after the network has been setup, maintenance of the network becomes easier because the installer will be able to quickly identify which nodes are malfunctioning.

(IV) Appellants repeat the argument that Mulcahy location information is already known or associated with subscribers (see argument for claim 48, brief page 21).

The Examiner disagrees. See sections I and II listed above.

(V) Appellants argue that Mulcahy does not teach the subscriber unit is located at the geographic location of the subscriber (bottom page 21 of brief).

The Examiner disagrees. Mulcahy clearly shows the test apparatus plays the text: “Enter terminal number” (Mulcahy col. 7 lines 64-67) which is then recorded against an identifier for each node and identifiers for the terminals within each node through which the line passes (Mulcahy col. 7 lines 29-32). The Examiner further notes that the CLI is also transmitted to the database (col. 8 lines 7-9).

(VI) Appellants argue the combination of Mulcahy with Dolin (see bottom page 22 of brief).

The Examiner notes that Mulcahy does not rule out the possibility of sending geographic location information to a database (see CLI in column 8 lines 7-9 and column 8 lines 49-50). Dolin teaches a configuration device for use in a networked communication system (title, abstract) that allows any individual to configure a network by correctly and accurately assigning and recording addresses for each node (col. 3 line 63 - col. 4 line 8, co. 5 line 55 - col. 6 line 4). Dolin discloses that the preferred embodiment of the present invention is designed to interface with any number of physical media, including optical (col. 9 lines 12-52). Dolin teaches using Domain addresses to define a network (col. 10 lines 14-19, col. 10 line 62 - col. 11 line 6). Dolin teaches using location codes in conjunction with node addresses and node ids (col. 10 line 62 - col. 12 line 43) so that future configuration and re-configuration may be easily conducted.

Dolin discloses the importance of using location information (see column 3 line 63 - column 4 line 5). That is, during maintenance of a highly distributed system, it is desirable to provide accessibility to identification information identifying a particular node in the network, especially when a node is malfunctioning (col. 13 lines 5-9). Dolin at column 11 lines 30-52 reveals that location information is important for configuring nodes with "application specific location code information".

It would have been obvious for any one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to utilize the teachings of Dolin into the teachings of Mulcahy in order to allow an installer of a network to store location information in conjunction with node addresses when network set-up is being conducted. Then, after the network has been setup,

maintenance of the network becomes easier because the installer will be able to quickly identify which nodes are malfunctioning.

(VII) Appellants repeat arguments made with respect to claims 1, 2, 37, 39-41, 43, 44 and 47 when addressing claims 49-55 (page 23 of brief).

The Examiners response with respect to claims 1, 2, 37, 39-41, 43, 44 and 47 also hold for claims 49-55 (see sections I, II, III listed above).

(VIII) Appellants repeat arguments made with respect to claims 1 and 49 when addressing claim 65 (page 24 of brief).

The Examiners response with respect to claims 1 and 49 also hold for claim 65 (see sections I, II, III listed above).

(IX) Appellants argue the combination of Mulcahy with Dolin for claim 66 (bottom page 24 of brief).

The Examiner notes that Mulcahy does not rule out the possibility of sending geographic location information to a database (see CLI in column 8 lines 7-9 and column 8 lines 49-50). Dolin teaches a configuration device for use in a networked communication system (title, abstract) that allows any individual to configure a network by correctly and accurately assigning and recording addresses for each node (col. 3 line 63 - col. 4 line 8, co. 5 line 55 - col. 6 line 4). Dolin discloses that the preferred embodiment of the present invention is designed to interface with any number of physical media, including optical (col. 9 lines 12-52). Dolin teaches using Domain addresses to define a network (col. 10 lines 14-19, col. 10 line 62 - col. 11 line 6). Dolin teaches using location codes in conjunction with node addresses and node ids (col. 10

line 62 - col. 12 line 43) so that future configuration and re-configuration may be easily conducted.

Dolin discloses the importance of using location information (see column 3 line 63 - column 4 line 5). That is, during maintenance of a highly distributed system, it is desirable to provide accessibility to identification information identifying a particular node in the network, especially when a node is malfunctioning (col. 13 lines 5-9). Dolin at column 11 lines 30-52 reveals that location information is important for configuring nodes with "application specific location code information".

It would have been obvious for any one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to utilize the teachings of Dolin into the teachings of Mulcahy in order to allow an installer of a network to store location information in conjunction with node addresses when network set-up is being conducted. Then, after the network has been setup, maintenance of the network becomes easier because the installer will be able to quickly identify which nodes are malfunctioning.

(X) Appellants repeat arguments made with respect to claims 1, 2, 37, 39-41, 43, 44 and 47 when addressing claim 63 (bottom page 25 of brief).

The Examiners response with respect to claims 1, 2, 37, 39-41, 43, 44 and 47 also hold for claim 63 (see sections I, II, III listed above).

(XI) Appellants argue the combination of Mulcahy with Dolin for claim 67 (bottom page 26 of brief).

The Examiner notes that Mulcahy does not rule out the possibility of sending geographic location information to a database (see CLI in column 8 lines 7-9 and

column 8 lines 49-50). Dolin teaches a configuration device for use in a networked communication system (title, abstract) that allows any individual to configure a network by correctly and accurately assigning and recording addresses for each node (col. 3 line 63 - col. 4 line 8, co. 5 line 55 - col. 6 line 4). Dolin discloses that the preferred embodiment of the present invention is designed to interface with any number of physical media, including optical (col. 9 lines 12-52). Dolin teaches using Domain addresses to define a network (col. 10 lines 14-19, col. 10 line 62 - col. 11 line 6). Dolin teaches using location codes in conjunction with node addresses and node ids (col. 10 line 62 - col. 12 line 43) so that future configuration and re-configuration may be easily conducted.

Dolin discloses the importance of using location information (see column 3 line 63 - column 4 line 5). That is, during maintenance of a highly distributed system, it is desirable to provide accessibility to identification information identifying a particular node in the network, especially when a node is malfunctioning (col. 13 lines 5-9). Dolin at column 11 lines 30-52 reveals that location information is important for configuring nodes with "application specific location code information".

It would have been obvious for any one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to utilize the teachings of Dolin into the teachings of Mulcahy in order to allow an installer of a network to store location information in conjunction with node addresses when network set-up is being conducted. Then, after the network has been setup, maintenance of the network becomes easier because the installer will be able to quickly identify which nodes are malfunctioning.

(XII) Appellants repeat the arguments made with respect to claim 1 when addressing claim 68 (bottom page 27 of brief).

The Examiners response with respect to claim1 also holds for claim 63 (see sections I, II, III listed above).

(XIII) Appellants argue the combination of Mulcahy with Dolin (see bottom page 28 of brief).

The Examiner notes that Mulcahy does not rule out the possibility of sending geographic location information to a database (see CLI in column 8 lines 7-9 and column 8 lines 49-50). Dolin teaches a configuration device for use in a networked communication system (title, abstract) that allows any individual to configure a network by correctly and accurately assigning and recording addresses for each node (col. 3 line 63 - col. 4 line 8, co. 5 line 55 - col. 6 line 4). Dolin discloses that the preferred embodiment of the present invention is designed to interface with any number of physical media, including optical (col. 9 lines 12-52). Dolin teaches using Domain addresses to define a network (col. 10 lines 14-19, col. 10 line 62 - col. 11 line 6). Dolin teaches using location codes in conjunction with node addresses and node ids (col. 10 line 62 - col. 12 line 43) so that future configuration and re-configuration may be easily conducted.

Dolin discloses the importance of using location information (see column 3 line 63 - column 4 line 5). That is, during maintenance of a highly distributed system, it is desirable to provide accessibility to identification information identifying a particular node in the network, especially when a node is malfunctioning (col. 13 lines 5-9). Dolin

at column 11 lines 30-52 reveals that location information is important for configuring nodes with "application specific location code information".

It would have been obvious for any one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to utilize the teachings of Dolin into the teachings of Mulcahy in order to allow an installer of a network to store location information in conjunction with node addresses when network set-up is being conducted. Then, after the network has been setup, maintenance of the network becomes easier because the installer will be able to quickly identify which nodes are malfunctioning.

(XIV) Applicants argue that Mulcahy in view of Dolin fail to teach prompting the installer to reinput the location code upon finding an error (page 29 of brief).

Mulcahy in view of Dolin fail to show prompting the installer to reinput the location code. However, Mulcahy discloses that if an error is detected, the operator can instruct a field engineer (i.e. installer) to perform appropriate operations to correct the error (col. 8 lines 1 9-22).

Kennedy allows the craftsperson to re-input the location code (col. 2 lines 51-60, col. 3 lines 33-66, col. 7 lines 39-41 , col. 10 lines 1-3, lines 29-31 , see "reentering the correct directory number" in column 11).

It would have been obvious for any one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to utilize the teachings of Kennedy into the teachings of Mulcahy and Dolin to allow the technician the opportunity to perform appropriate operations to correct the error.

(11) Related Proceeding(s) Appendix

No decision rendered by a court or the Board is identified by the examiner in the Related Appeals and Interferences section of this examiner's answer.

For the above reasons, it is believed that the rejections should be sustained.

Respectfully submitted,

/Barry W Taylor/

Primary Examiner, Art unit 2617

May 6, 2009

Conferees:

/Duc Nguyen/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2618

/CURTIS KUNTZ/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2614